

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for processing a network operating system operation is provided. A network management application that configures and monitors network components transmits a payload containing an XML document to a transport agent. The XML document contains one or more network device operating system operations and associated data. The XML document and associated data is read from the payload and transmitted to a programmatic agent. The programmatic agent parses the XML document containing the operation and associated data, and provides the operation and associated data in a callback to an appropriate network component. The network component processes the operation, and transmits responsive data to the programmatic agent. The programmatic agent creates a responsive XML document containing the responsive data, and transmits the responsive XML document to the network management application. Network management applications may both configure and monitor network device operating system components using operations within the XML document.